



NEWS

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California Collision Reduction II

SACRAMENTO—The California Highway Patrol (CHP) will begin a year long California Collision Reduction, Phase II (CCR II) project on January 1, 2004. Funding for this project was provided by a \$3.1 million grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. The CCR II project focuses on reducing the number of fatal and injury collisions on targeted state highways. This project also focuses on reducing the number of fatal and injury collisions involving unrestrained victims.

Using project-funded overtime, the eight CHP field Divisions will deploy officers exclusively on targeted state highways to enforce traffic violations which most commonly cause collisions. Officers will also be looking for vehicle occupants who are not wearing safety belts, especially children who are not properly secured in safety seats.

In 2002, the number of persons killed who were not wearing occupant restraints increased by more than 8 percent. CHP Commissioner D. O. (Spike) Helmick said, “Over 91 percent of Californians wear their safety belts, the other 8 percent should buckle up or be prepared to get a citation.”

The CHP is urging motorists to prevent fatal and injury collisions by reducing their speed and buckling their safety belts.